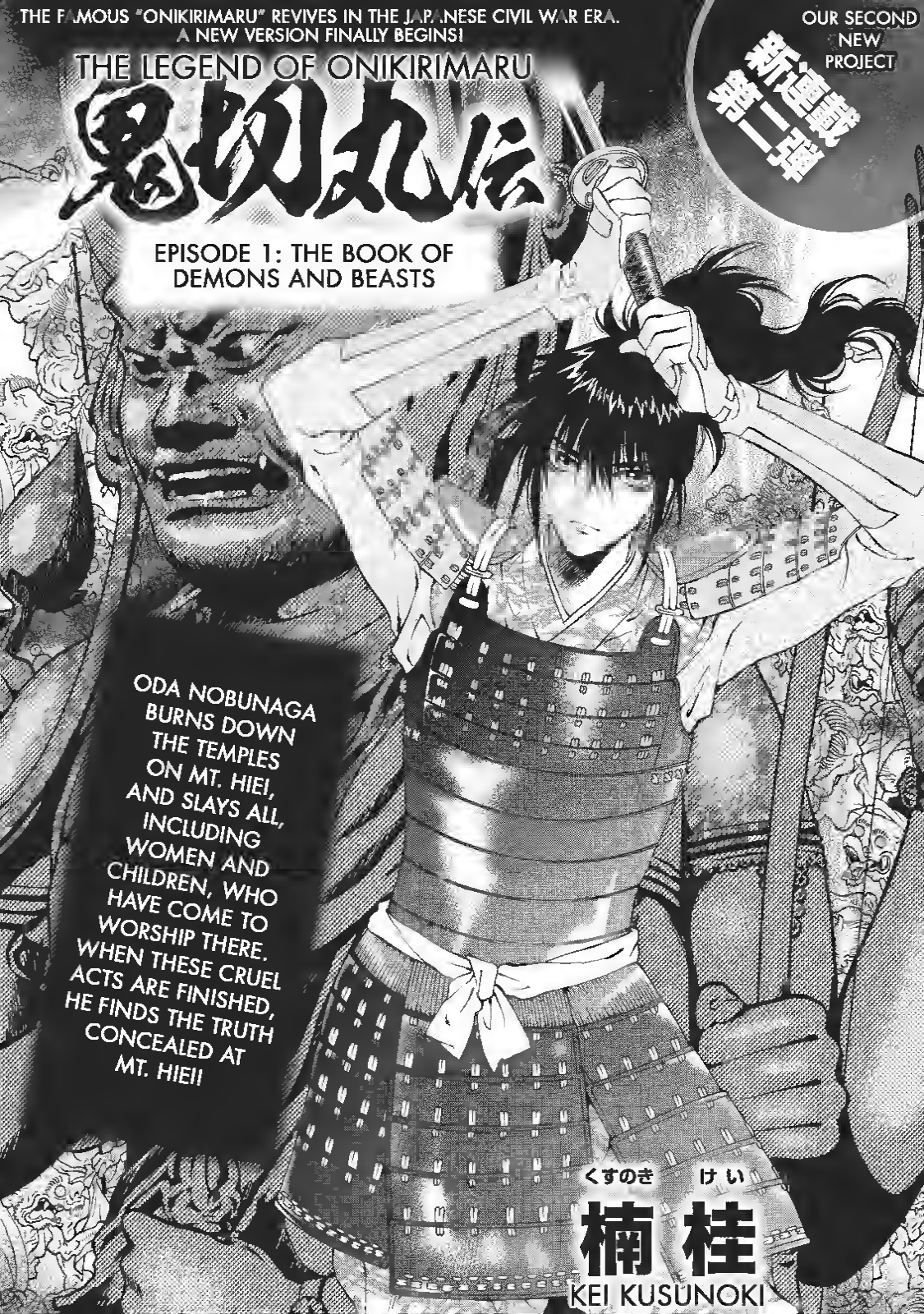
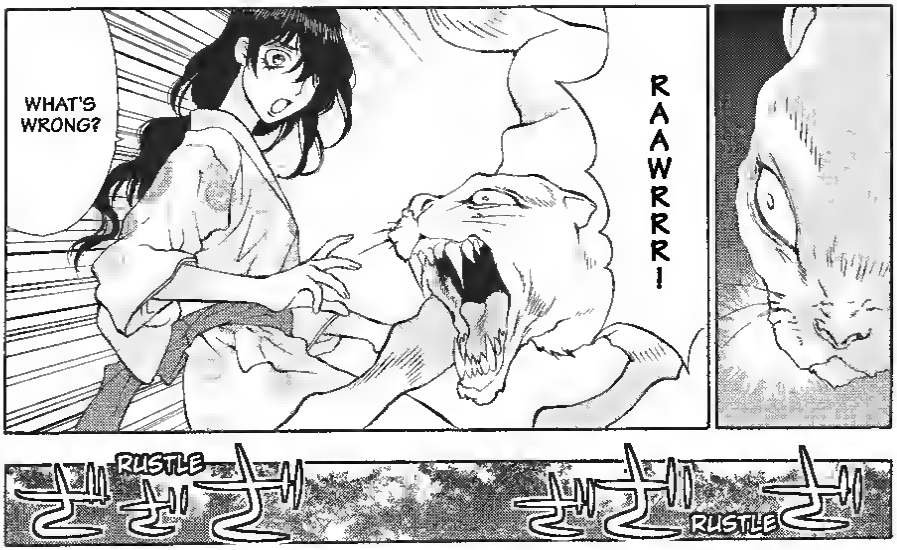
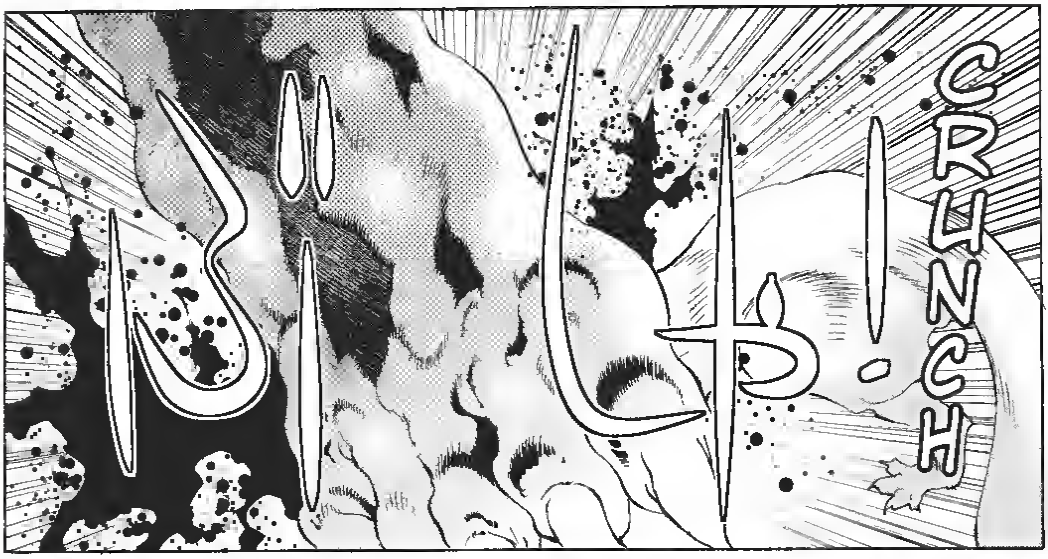

THE FAMOUS "ONIKIRIMARU" REVIVES IN THE JAPANESE CIVIL WAR ERA.
A NEW VERSION FINALLY BEGINS!
OUR SECOND NEW PROJECT
新連載第二弾
THE LEGEND OF ONIKIRIMARU
鬼切丸伝
EPISODE 1: THE BOOK OF DEMONS AND BEASTS
ODA NOBUNAGA BURNS DOWN THE TEMPLES ON MT. HIEI, AND SLAYS ALL, INCLUDING WOMEN AND CHILDREN, WHO HAVE COME TO WORSHIP THERE. WHEN THESE CRUEL ACTS ARE FINISHED, HE FINDS THE TRUTH CONCEALED AT MT. HIEI!
くすのき　けい
楠桂
KEI KUSUNOKI

ONCE UPON A TIME, IN THE LAND OF THE RISING SUN, HUMANS, MONSTERS, AND GODS ALL LIVED IN HARMONY.
WHERE DID YOU GO? COME ON!
COME HERE!

RUSTLE
カサッ

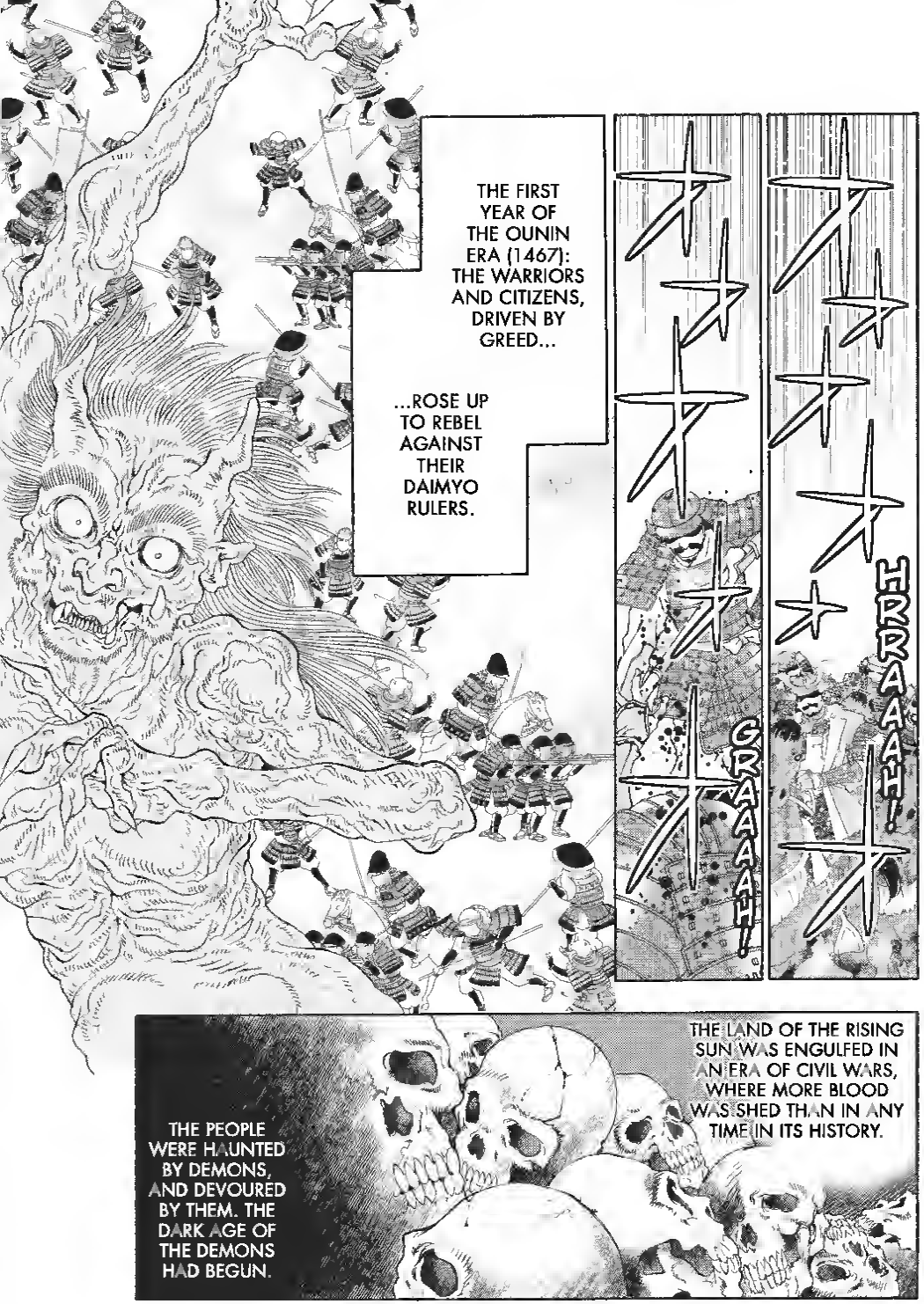
THERE YOU ARE
COME HERE, AND I'LL GIVE YOU SOME FRUIT.

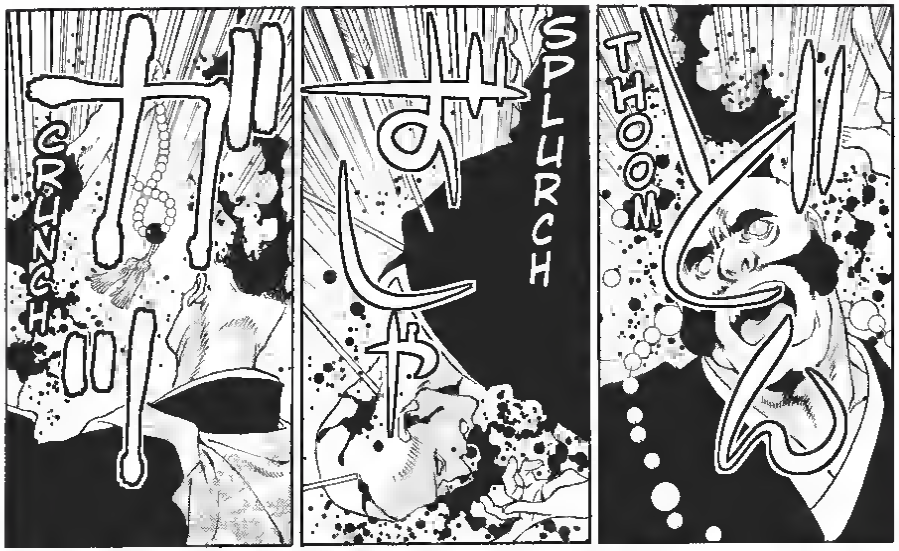

WHAT'S WRONG?
RAAWRRR!
RUSTLE
RUSTLE

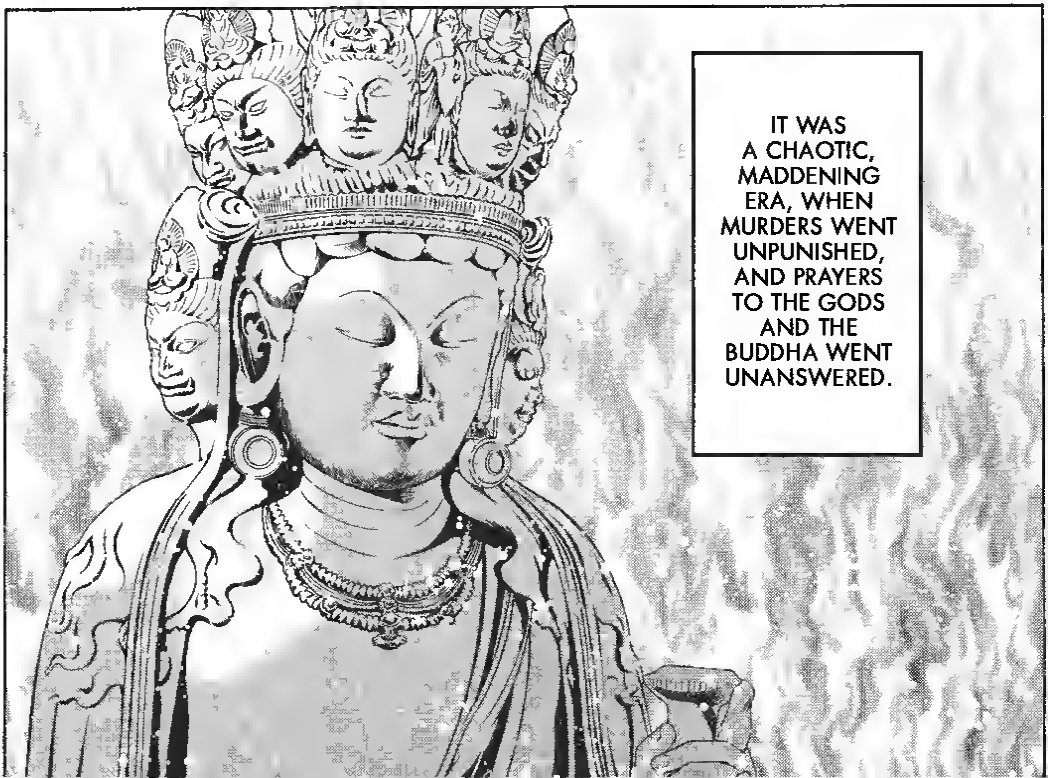

CRUNCH

THE DEMONS ALONE...
BUT THE DEMONS...
THE ACCURSED DEMONS...

THEY WERE CRUEL AND MONSTROUS.

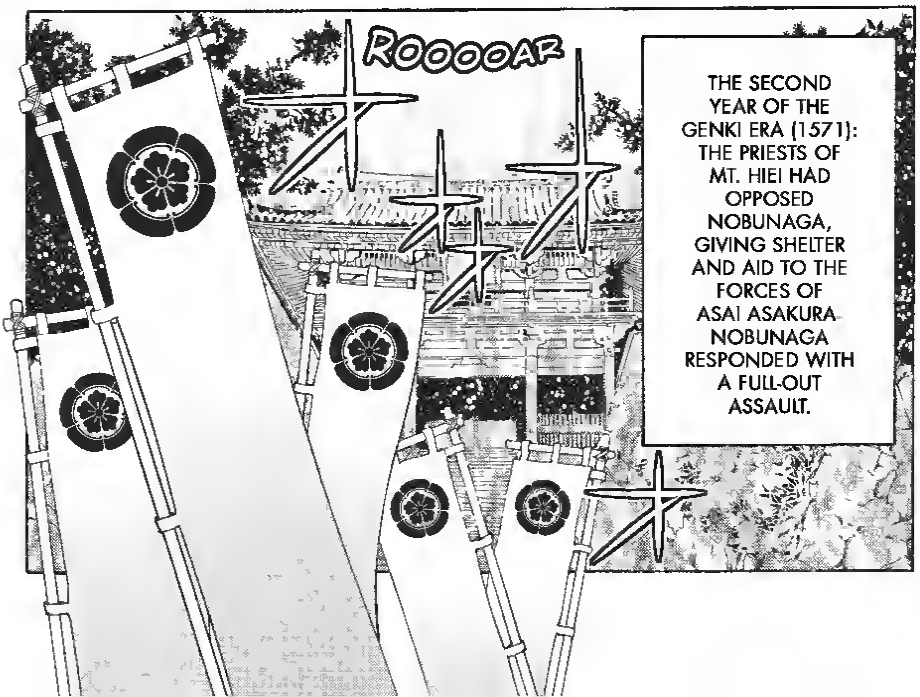

THE FIRST YEAR OF THE OUNIN ERA (1467): THE WARRIORS AND CITIZENS, DRIVEN BY GREED...
...ROSE UP TO REBEL AGAINST THEIR DAIMYO RULERS.
GRAAAAH!
IRRAAAAH!
THE LAND OF THE RISING SUN WAS ENGULFED IN AN ERA OF CIVIL WARS, WHERE MORE BLOOD WAS SHED THAN IN ANY TIME IN ITS HISTORY.
THE PEOPLE WERE HAUNTED BY DEMONS, AND DEVOURED BY THEM. THE DARK AGE OF THE DEMONS HAD BEGUN.


CRUNCH
SPLURCH
THOOM


IT WAS A CHAOTIC, MADDENING ERA, WHEN MURDERS WENT UNPUNISHED, AND PRAYERS TO THE GODS AND THE BUDDHA WENT UNANSWERED.

OIO THE DEMONS DRIVE YOU TO DO THIS? YOU ARE AN ENEMY OF BUDDHA!
CURSE YOU, NOBUNAGA! HOW DARE YOU SET FIRE TO MT. HIEI, THE SACRED MOUNTAIN PROTECTING THE CAPITAL AT KYOTO?
CRUNCH

YOU HAVE NEGLECTED YOUR RITES AND GIVEN YOURSELF TO DRINK. YOU HAVE DEVOURED THE FLESH OF FISH AND FOWL, AND GONE TO WAR TO KILL
THE PEOPLE OF THIS TEMPLE HAVE DRIFTED FROM THE PATH OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND NO MERCY WILL BE SHOWN
ODA DANJOUNOCHUU NOBUNAGA


ROOOOAR
THE SECOND YEAR OF THE GENKI ERA (1571): THE PRIESTS OF MT. HIEI HAD OPPOSED NOBUNAGA, GIVING SHELTER AND AID TO THE FORCES OF ASAI ASAKURA. NOBUNAGA RESPONDED WITH A FULL-OUT ASSAULT.

NO! SOMEBODY SAVE ME!
THOOM
CRUNCH
SPLURT
FROM THE RECORD OF LORD NOBUNAGA
ON THE 12TH OF SEPTEMBER, HE STORMED MT. HIEI AND BURNED IT TO THE GROUND.
EVERY PRIEST, EVEN THE CHILD ACOLYTES, WAS BEHEADED, AND THEIR HEADS WERE PARADED BEFORE LORD NOBUNAGA AT THE TOP OF THE MOUNTAIN. THE CHILDREN AND BEAUTIFUL WOMEN THERE WERE CAPTURED AND BROUGHT BEFORE HIM...

LORD NOBUNAGA, WHAT SHALL WE DO WITH THE WOMEN WE CAPTURED?
CLINK
WE'VE NOTHING TO DO WITH ENRYAKU TEMPLE!
PLEASE, PLEASE LET US GO!
NO WOMEN ARE PERMITTED IN THIS HOLY PLACE. THEY MUST BE MONSTERS

HOW IRONIC .. THIS PLACE WAS ONCE SACRED, BUT NOW ITS PRIESTS DEFY THE TENETS OF THE BUDDHA. IT'S THE PERFECT HIDING SPOT FOR MONSTERS
AS YOU SAY, THIS PLACE IS A SACRED GROUND. MONSTERS AND SPIRITS COULD NEVER ENTER HERE!
L-LORD NOBUNAGA.. PLEASE! HAVE MERCY!
BEHEAD THEM ALL!

SHRAK

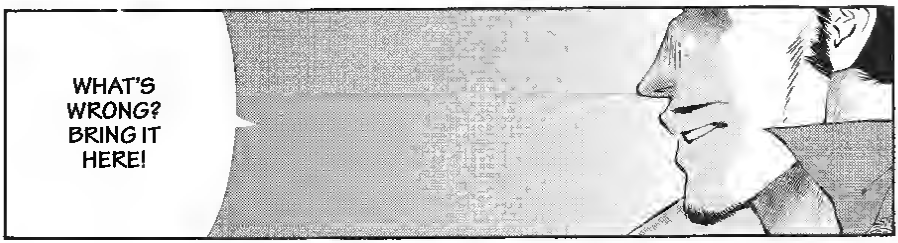
NOOOO!
AAAH!
AAAH!
HGCK!
SPLURGE

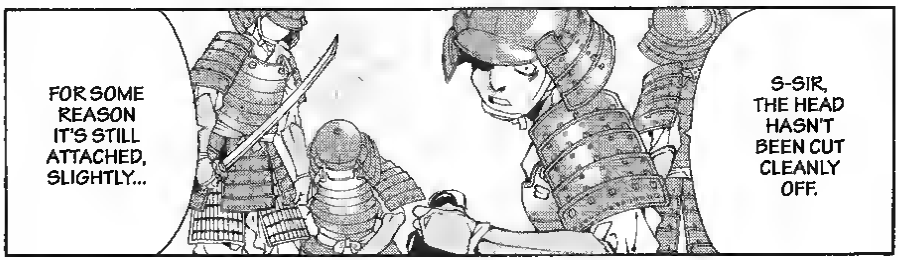
AAH...
DRIP
WAVER
THE GIRLS WHO BEWITCHED THE PRIESTS OF THIS HOLY PLACE ARE TERRIFYING INDEED. THEY ARE MONSTERS, YET THEIR SOBS SOUND SO BEAUTIFUL...
AAAAAH!
SHRAK!!

BRING ME THE HEAD OF ONE OF THE MONSTERS.
I'M CERTAIN. IT HAD THE FACE OF THE GIRL I KILLED.
THE FIRST THAT YOU SLEW.
MY LORD, WHICH SHALL IT BE?

A DEAD GIRL, ONCE AGAIN BEGGING FOR HER LIFE...
HOW VERY STRANGE

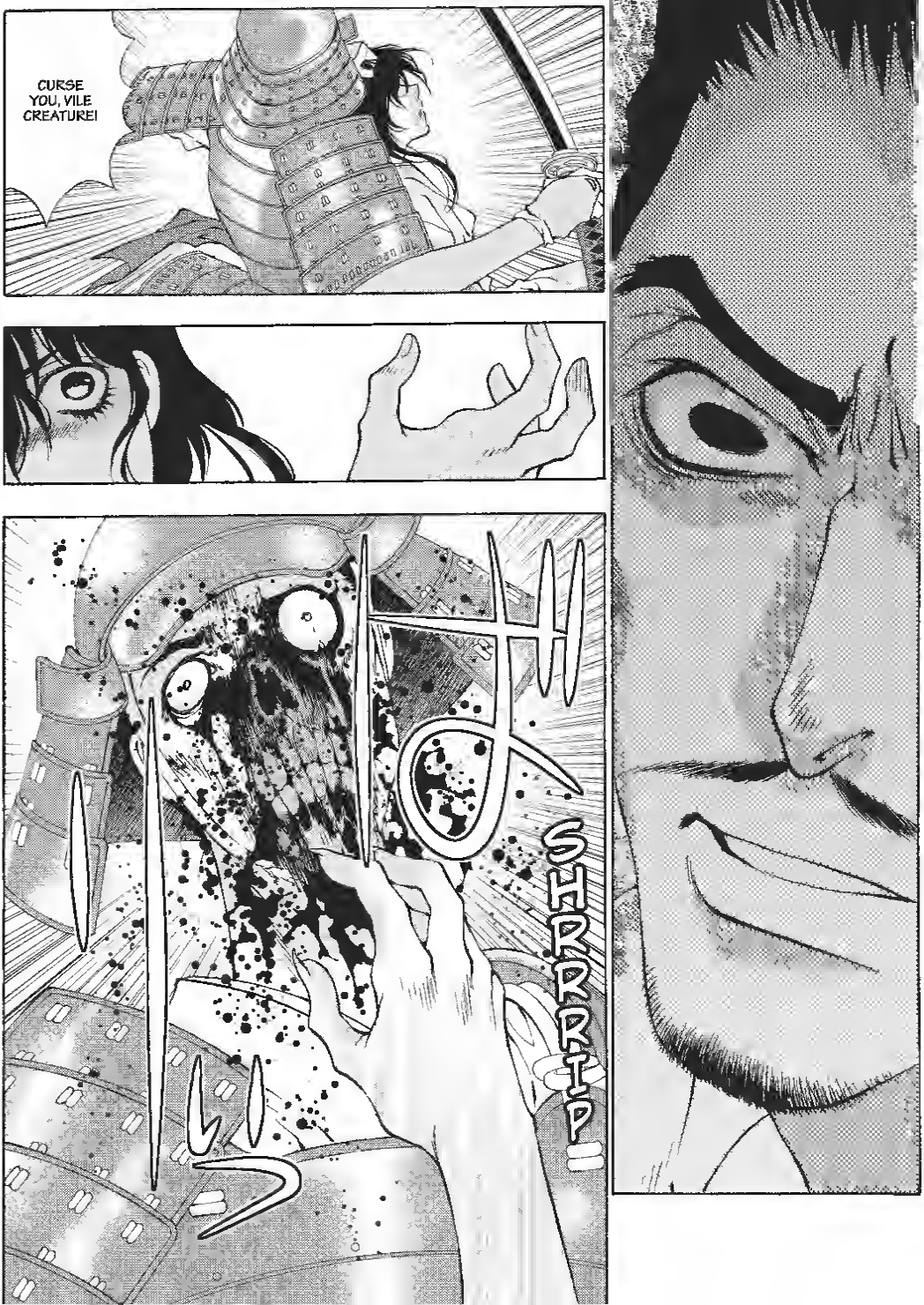
IT'S HEAVY!
GUYAAK
OH, HERE IT IS. THIS ONE.


WHAT'S WRONG? BRING IT HERE!


FOR SOME REASON IT'S STILL ATTACHED, SLIGHTLY...
S-SIR, THE HEAD HASN'T BEEN CUT CLEANLY OFF.

YOU DOLTS CAN'T EVEN CUT THROUGH A WOMAN'S TINY NECK?

YOU'RE A CRUEL MAN, NOBUNAGA.
YOU'RE WASTED AS A HUMAN.


CURSE YOU, VILE CREATURE!
SHRRRIP!

CRACK
KRACK
KRACK
KRACK
MONSTERS, GHOSTS, AND EVEN GODS MAY SOMETIMES BE SLAIN BY MAN.
BUT THE DEMONS...
ONLY THE DEMONS...

THE ACCURSED DEMONS...
ONLY A DEMON CAN SLAY ANOTHER DEMON!
GRAAAAH!

MY LORD! YOU MUST ESCAPE!
SHRIP
AMIDA BUDDHA PRESERVE US!
NO!
HA
HA
HA

THOOM
NOBUNAGA

WE TOOK ADVANTAGE OF MEN'S FEAR OF THIS HOLY PLACE, AND HID IN SECRET ON MT. HIEI.
BUT YOU ALONE FEARED NEITHER GOD NOR BUDDHA, AND BURNED THE MOST SACRED TEMPLE OF THIS NATION TO THE GROUND.
PERHAPS IT MIGHT BE FUN TO DESTROY THE PEOPLE OF THIS NATION WITH YOU.

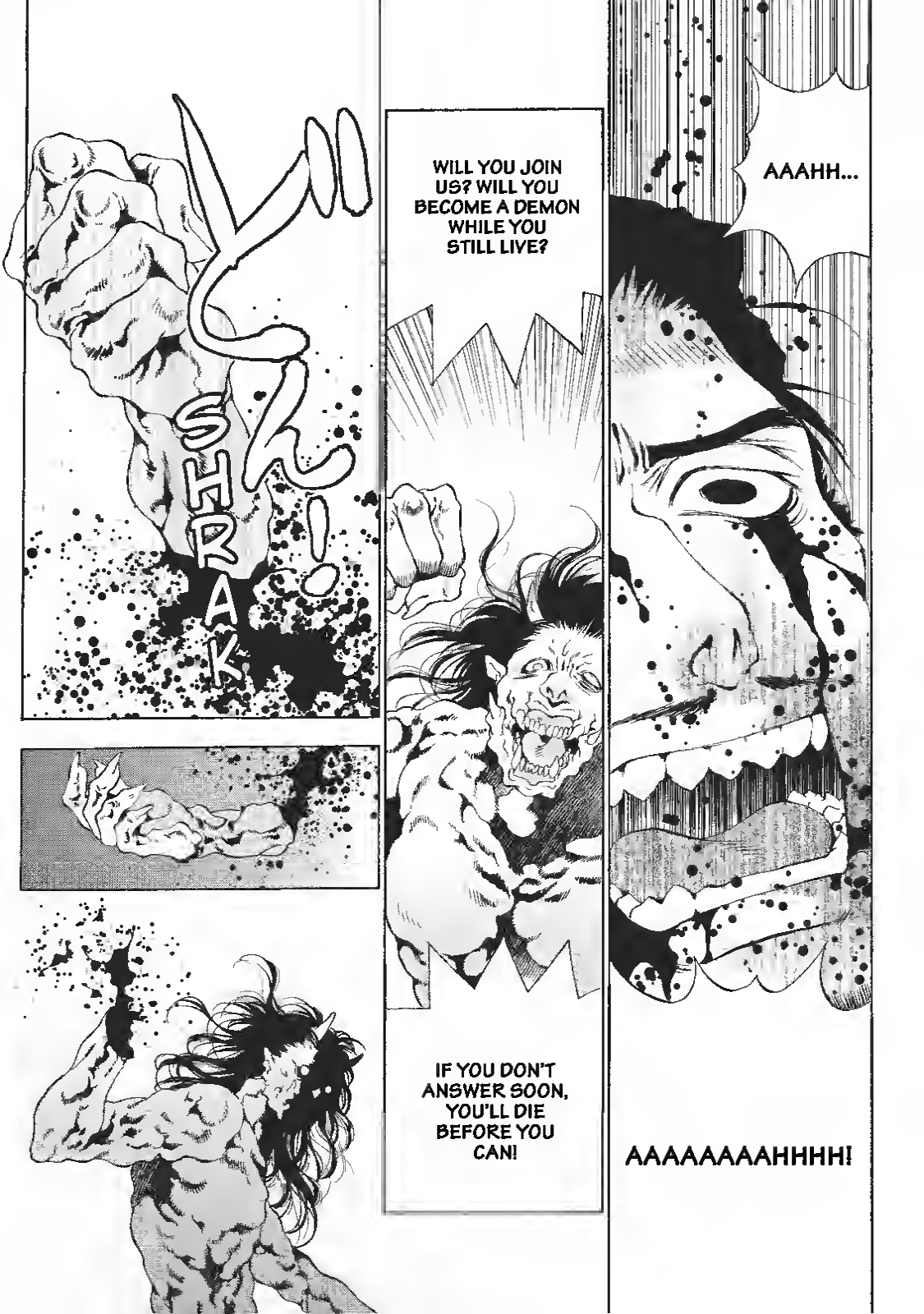
HOW ABOUT IT? BECOME ONE WITH ME, AND WE CAN SHED EVEN MORE BLOOD!
WE CAN STAIN THE GROUND OF THIS NATION WITH CRIMSON! WON'T IT BE BEAUTIFUL?
I'LL DEVOUR IT.
YOU'LL REMAIN ALIVE, BUT YOUR SOUL...
DON'T WORRY... I WON'T KILL YOU.
BE SILENT!
SHAKI

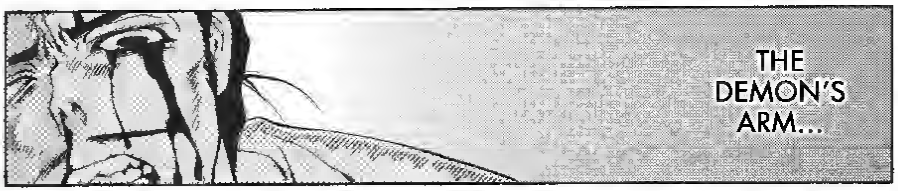
IT IS MOST DEFINITELY NOT MY GOAL!
THIS SLAUGHTER IS PART OF MY PLAN TO TAKE OVER JAPAN!
HEH.
HEH HEH...
HEH...
YOU FOOL.

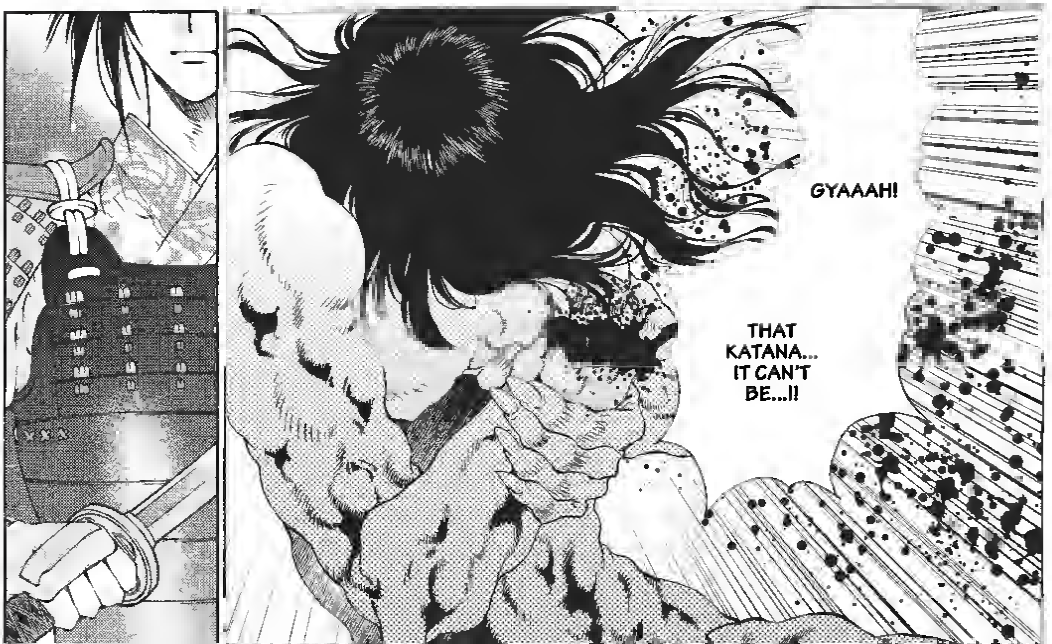
NOTHING IN THE WORLD CAN CUT THE FLESH OF A DEMON!
WHAM
NO, THERE IS ONE THING!
THE DEMON'S MORTAL ENEMY... THE SACRED BLADE ONIKIRIMARU...

THIS KATANA, HELD BY THE ACCURSED CHILD OF THE DEMONS, WHO IS TASKED BY HEAVEN TO SLAY HIS KIN. .
..IS THE ONE THING THAT CAN CUT THROUGH A DEMON'S FLESH AND BONE. .
SLASH
HUMANS TELL THE MOST FOOLISH STORIES...
HUMANS ARE JUST INSECTS!
WORMS!
SKRAK
SCHLOCK

NOBUNAGA...
HACK
COUGH
IF YOU'RE LUCKY, THE PAIN AND HATRED WILL MAKE YOU ONE OF US DEMONS!
I WAS GOING TO LET YOU RULE IN THE LAND OF THE DEAD, BUT I'VE CHANGED MY MIND!
YANK
YOU'LL SUFFER LONG BEFORE YOU DIE. YOU'LL SUFFER, SUFFER, AND SUFFER MORE, AND FINALLY DIE!
SMASH
SMASH
SMASH


SHRAK!
WILL YOU JOIN US? WILL YOU BECOME A DEMON WHILE YOU STILL LIVE?
IF YOU DON'T ANSWER SOON, YOU'LL DIE BEFORE YOU CAN!
AAAHH...
AAAAAAAAHHHH!


THE DEMON'S ARM...

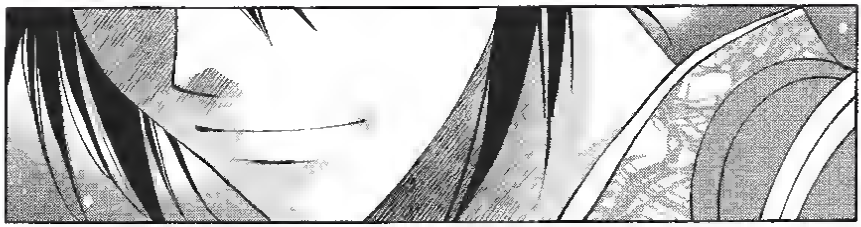

GYAAAH!
THAT KATANA... IT CAN'T BE...!!

THE DEMONS WERE CRUEL AND MONSTROUS.
BUT THE WORST OF ALL...

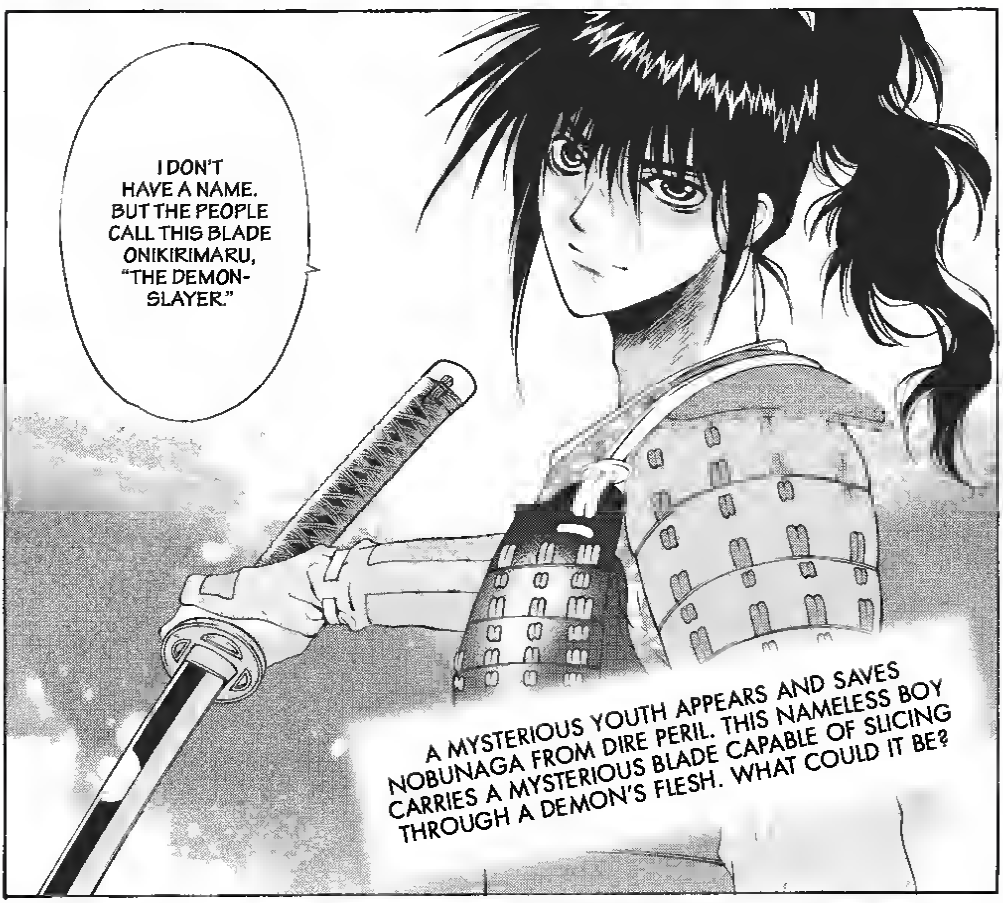
...WAS
THE
ACCURSED
CHILD OF
THE
DEMONS,
FATED BY
HEAVEN TO
DESTROY
HIS KIN.

IS THIS A MIRACLE BROUGHT BY THE GODS, OR THE BUDDHA?
NOOO!
NO, IT IS NOT!
PLEASE! DON'T HURT ME!

EVIL LURKS IN HIS EYES... AN EVIL GREATER THAN THE DEMONS!
W-WAIT!
ARE YOU A DEMON? ARE YOU THE DEMON KING OF THE 6TH HEAVEN?



IF YOU WANT THAT TITLE, YOU CAN HAVE IT.


I DON'T HAVE A NAME. BUT THE PEOPLE CALL THIS BLADE ONIKIRIMARU, "THE DEMON-SLAYER."
A MYSTERIOUS YOUTH APPEARS AND SAVES NOBUNAGA FROM DIRE PERIL. THIS NAMELESS BOY CARRIES A MYSTERIOUS BLADE CAPABLE OF SLICING THROUGH A DEMON'S FLESH. WHAT COULD IT BE?